

**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50**

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas is pleased to recognize the Lakewood Church of Houston on the occasion of the grand opening of its new facility; and

**WHEREAS**, The Lakewood Church has its roots in a meeting held by its founding pastor, John Osteen, in a converted feed store on Mother's Day in 1959; and

**WHEREAS**, Now known throughout the world as a model for racial harmony and diversity, Lakewood Church reaches out to thousands of people through its worship services and myriad ministries; and

**WHEREAS**, Over the last 46 years, the Lakewood Church has ministered faithfully to the spiritual needs of innumerable people; and

**WHEREAS**, Due to the guidance and wise stewardship of Pastor John Osteen and to the outstanding leadership of its current pastor, his son, Joel Osteen, the church has undergone astonishing growth and has now moved into the 16,000-seat Compaq Center, formerly known as The Summit; and

**WHEREAS**, This innovative church has rapidly increased its outreach programs to include such special ministries as those for the hearing-impaired, the homeless, foreign visitors, unwed mothers, hospitals, and prisons; in addition, its international media broadcast has expanded into over 200 million households in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Pastor Joel Osteen and his wife, Victoria, are leading what is called a "new generation," and their inspirational

ministry is providing enlightenment and hope to all who enter the church and to citizens throughout the world; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 79th Legislature, 2nd Called Session, hereby extend best wishes to the clergy, staff, and members of the Lakewood Church on the occasion of the grand opening of its glorious new house of worship; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for the church as an expression of esteem from the Texas Senate.

Ellis

Armbrister  
Averitt  
Barrientos  
Brimer  
Carona  
Deuell  
Duncan  
Eltife  
Estes  
Fraser

Gallegos  
Harris  
Hinojosa  
Jackson  
Janek  
Lindsay  
Lucio  
Madla  
Nelson  
Ogden

Seliger  
Shapiro  
Shapleigh  
Staples  
Van de Putte  
Wentworth  
West  
Whitmire  
Williams  
Zaffirini

Dewhurst, President of the Senate

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 4, 2005.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate